

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 00-524-B)

16591 U.S.PTO 10/6/03 1728 07/09/03



In re Application of:)
Mertens et al.) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Serial No.: TBD) Prior Art Unit: 2818
Filed: July 9, 2003) Examiner: Not yet assigned
For: Method And Apparatus For) Prior Examiner: Le, Thao P.
Liquid-Treating And Drying)
A Substrate)

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above-referenced patent application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 5-9 with the following amended paragraph:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a divisional application of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/892,269, filed on June 27, 2001 now U.S. Patent _____, which claims benefit to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/214,693 entitled "Method For Removing A Liquid From A Flat Substrate And Method For Drying A Flat Substrate.", filed on June 27, 2000.